Names of bulk drugs detected as ommissions by the Kelkar Committee

755. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of bulk drugs which have been detected as ommissions by the Kelkar Committee;

(b) how many sittings the Standing Committee had on this issue;

(c) whether his Ministry have taken any steps to check overinvoicing and large funds that have been directly and indirectly kept abroad by some drug companies; and

(d) how many cases of overinvoicing have been brought to the notice of his Ministry till now and what action has been taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) The Standing Committee constituted to look into and examine the matter of exclusion/inclusion of drugs from price control on the basis of Kelkar Committee recommendation has held seven meetings so far.

(c) and (d) A number of complaints have been received alleging overinvoicing in imports of drugs. These matters have been referred to Directorate of Revenue Intelligence to take appropriate action.

Assessment of liability from drug companies

756. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 659 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1991, and state:

(a) whether his Ministry have taken any steps to obtain full details for the assessment of their liabilities from Drug Companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (d) Letters asking for complete data were issued from time to time, to the companies involved in the Supreme Court case. Instead of making available the data, a number of them have raised legal issues, while the others have not yet responded. All efforts are being made to obtain the data and if it does not become available soon, there will be no alternative out to compute their liabilities on the basis of whatever data is available with the Government.

Recommendation of BICP regarding 50 per cent reduction in the cost of drugs

757. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry have accepted the recommendations of BICP made in supplementary report regarding retention of 50 per cent reduction in cost of drugs due to process development efforts by drug companies;

(b) what are the basis of such acceptance;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a number of benefits are already allowed to drug companies for R&D activity;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) what are the names of drugs whose prices were determined on the basis of acceptance of such recommendation; what was the net benefit to the company; and

(f) what was the production and captive consumption of each drug during the last three years, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government decision was based on the recommendations of Kelkar Committee.

(c) and (d) The other benefits extended to the industry on the basis of recommendation of Kelkar Committee is